

FOUNTAIN OF THE CROSS, ROUEN.



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In order to obtain a correct idea of what a fountain should be, it is absolutely requisite to cross the channel and visit some of the continental cities. In England we have nothing that will convey the same notion: with all respect for the works of our own countrymen, we are compelled to acknowledge that the fountains at Chatsworth, Trafalgar-square, &c., are very inferior to those at Versailles, St. Cloud, or even to those smaller celebrities in the Place de la Concorde, at Paris; and the same comparison will hold good with regard to

works of lesser note. Here, if water is required in public places for the general use, it is supplied by means of exceedingly ugly iron pumps; while on the continent the same beneficial result is arrived at by more ornamental means. In the markets and other convenient places, conduits are erected, from which water is continually flowing, and is to be procured with very little labour. In no place are these more frequently to be met with than in Rouen. It is said that previous to the revolution of 1792, there was a fountain near every church, and at the present time they are not less than thirty-six in number: of these seven deserve parti-

cular notice, either from their architectural or historical character. They are known as the fountains of the Croix de Pierre, the Crosee, the Grosse Horloge, the Vieux Marché, the Pucelle, St. Macdon, and Liseux. The Fountain of the Crosee is that which forms the subject of our present illustration: it is placed at the corner of the *Rue des Canes, et de l'Hôpital*, and was erected at the latter part of the 15th century, and although in a very dilapidated condition, is still remarkable for the richness and delicacy of its ornamental detail. It is said to have been completely restored in 1815, but looking at its present state this seems impossible. The lower part from which the water springs is clearly modern.